

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1358

By Bone

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the members of the Lebanon High School Class of 1956 on the celebration of their 50th class reunion.

WHEREAS, high school reunions are an important part of the fabric of our society, because they provide an excellent opportunity to fondly remember the past, to renew old acquaintances, and to embrace and look forward to the future; and

WHEREAS, it is the great pleasure of this General Assembly to honor and congratulate those graduates of Tennessee public schools, both past and present, who have brought great honor and acclaim to our State through both their personal and professional successes; and

WHEREAS, Lebanon High School's Class of 1956 is one such worthy group of individuals, who will join together during the Summer of 2006 to celebrate their 50th Class Reunion; and

WHEREAS, it is through the miracles of modern science and technology that the 127 living members of the Lebanon High School Class of 1956 are celebrating the 50th anniversary of their graduation, which was itself a miraculous event; and

WHEREAS, in 1956, the very biggest candy bar cost 5-10 cents; a night out at the picture show cost 25-50 cents; and believe it or not, gasoline was a ridiculous 30-32 cents per gallon; and

WHEREAS, several members of the Class of 1956 insist that time travel must be involved in this special occasion, because it seems impossible that fifty years could have flown by so quickly; and

WHEREAS, some of the most memorable moments of the Class of 1956's high school experiences are the reunions, where they reminisce about their "glory days" at Lebanon High

School; the most popular topics of discussion are loved and despised teachers, old, and they do mean OLD, classmates, and the many nefarious and notorious happenings which involved those wild and wacky youngsters who collectively comprised the Lebanon High School Class of 1956; and

WHEREAS, the Class of 1956 holds the distinction of being the first Lebanon High School class to graduate in what was then the "New Building;" the "New Building" was indeed a marvel of modern design and construction at the time, and as an added bonus, featured black tar dripping from the ceiling at no extra cost; and

WHEREAS, the Class of 1956 spent the first three years of their so-called education in the beloved "Old Building," which is now home to the county jail; the irony of this conversion is not lost upon the Class of 1956, many of whom regarded the "Old Building" as a jail even during their school days; and

WHEREAS, as they wonder where fifty years could have possibly gone, the Class of 1956 will reminisce about their favorite teachers: Principal Walter Fowler, who was stern and dour in appearance, but always supported his students as he led them down the path to graduation or the woodshed, as appropriate; Margaret "Ole Sister" Johnson, who called everyone either "ole brother" or "ole sister;" Miss Kate Watson, the girls' P.E. teacher, who made sure that her young ladies' "monkey suits" were starched and ironed to perfection; and librarian and study hall teacher, Helen Means, who plainly informed her students: "My name is Helen Means, and I am mean as hell, so sit down and get to work"; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Class of 1956 have also reserved a warm place in their hearts for other teachers who made a positive impact on their lives, namely Ruth Ingram, Lynn McMillan, Bobbie Jean Hunt, Ray Farley, Inez Harrison, and Solon Apple; and

WHEREAS, on this special occasion, these old fogies will fondly recall many happy school days that had absolutely nothing to do with education, including the Junior and Senior Banquets, where gents and ladies alike were elegantly dressed; their favorite off-campus hangouts, including the Maple Hill Café, Light House Diner, Tasty Shop, Snow White Drive-In, and the City Café; the fun-filled school plays with confusing titles; the many basketball and

football games Lebanon won and the many more they almost won; and even the occasional date with a real live boy or girl; and

WHEREAS, their discussions will probably also include the many, many, many, many, many years gone by and the numerous aforementioned miracles of modern science and technology that have become part of everyday life since their matriculation, including horseless carriages, electricity, running water, indoor toilets, jet airliners, space travel, and who can forget Interstate 40, cell phones, and the Internet; and

WHEREAS, fellow alumna Sue Underwood Bouton deserves much praise for serving as the Den Mother of the Class of 1956 and working to make their 50th reunion a pleasurable and unforgettable experience; this exceptional lady has spent hour upon hour keeping up with her flock just like the proverbial Mother Goose; and

WHEREAS, a great many of the members of the 1956 graduating class of Lebanon High School have gone on to achieve great things in life, truly making proud the City of Lebanon, Wilson County, and the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Seniors who graduated from Lebanon High School in 1956 persevered through their high school years and have become valuable, contributing members of society; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Class of 1956 have worked, and continue to work, with purpose and commitment in their chosen professions, and have raised their families to do likewise, while always showing love and respect for their fellow human beings; and

WHEREAS, the living members of the Lebanon High School Class of 1956 are: Carrie Mai (Adams) Bennett, George Alexander, Marynelle (Alsup) Criswell, Voncile (Alsup) Little, Wallace Kiplin Alsup, Arlis Anderson, Nancy (Armstrong) Holcombe, Alda (Baker) Pruitt, Betty (Baird) Laine, David Allan Baird, Richard Aylen Barnett, Charles Bay, Betty Jean (Bennett) Ridley, Jimmy Bettes, James O. Bond, Stratton Bone, Peggy (Bogle) Corley, Gwendolyn (Booker) Jackson, Clara Lee Bryant, Joann (Burchett) Lockett, Thomas Carney, Joyce Faye (Clemmons) VanHook, Judith Gaye (Clemmons) Baird, Homer Clemmons, Doris Ann (Climmer) Meyers, Barbara Ann (Cowan) Simpson, James Howard Criswell, H. Joyce (Davis) McFerrin, Virgil Davis, Lounita Marie (Dedman) Sampson, Mary Ann (Donnell) Pinkerton, Mary Tom

(Donnell) Haun, Freida Kathleen (Draper) Morse, James Driver, William Edward Farmer, Lynda Marie (Flippen) Ruff, Glenn Richard Gardner, Beverly Ann (Goad) Ligon, Bettye Lue (Gossett) Zier, Lois Ann (Grandstaff) Farmer, Sylvia Sue (Graves) Alsup, Danice Elizabeth (Green) Purcell, Bobby Greer, Billie (Griffith) Register, Betty Ruth (Grime) Nokes, Bobby Hales, George Albert Hall, Dorothy Jo (Harris) Smith, Eva Jo (Harris) Huffines, Frances (Haynes) Vance, Dolores (Hemontolor) Johnson, Helen (Hight) Jennings, Mary Ann Hill, Norma Sue (Hodge) Bledsoe, Jenelle (Ingram) Drennan, John F. Jackson, Patricia Jane (Jackson) Jones, James Jarrard, Nancy Joy (Jennings) Phillips, Charles Johnson, William Donnell "Don" Johnston, James Howard Jones, Clara Ann (Jordan) Mehlenbacher, Hazelene L. (Knight) Mills, Annie Sue (Kolbe) Whited, Earl Kolbe, Nancy Ann (Lane) Gamble, Gwynn Lanius, Gloria "Polly" H. (Lannom) Stallings, Andrew Thomas Lea, A. Lucille (Leeth) Bentley, Betty Jean (Lester) Mofield, Tommy Lowery, David A. Mann, Nancy (Martin) King, Jennie M. (Mathis) Shelton, Louise (McFalls) Garner, Margaret Ann (McPeak) West, Hugh Minchey, Bobbie Jewell (Mofield) Kemp, Martha Harolyn (Moser) Copeland, Irene (Moss) Gulley, Lorene (Moss) Strausser, Bobby Jo Morse, Gerald Mullins, Geraldine (Mullins) Jones, Wilma (Murphy) Marks, Shirley (Newman) Mattson, Edward Overstreet, Thomas Partlow, James (Jimmy) Edward Reed, Mary (Regen) Ellis, Veribell (Robertson) Brewer, Darryl Robinson, Lynne (Robinson) Farris, William H. Rutledge, Betty Jean (Sanders) Nolen, Euel Sanders, Carolyn Scheuermann, Lee Roy Selby, Ruby (Sheperd) Angela, Jo Ann (Simpson) Schoolfield, Linda (Simpson) Hurst, Albert Smith, Frances (Smith) Dickey, Ed Smith, Eldon Stanton, Linda Ann (Swindell) Couch, Patricia Ann Swingley, Gary Wayne Tatum, Peggy Stuart (Thorne) Simpson, Johnny I. Todd, Doris Faye (Tomlinson) Bryant, Jane (Tribble) Hollis, Martha (Tribble) Slayton, Sue (Underwood) Bouton, Alice (Vance) Tubbs, Lois (Walker) Edwards, Betty Jean (Walls) Hailey, Rosalyn Ruth Ward, Wanda (Watkins) Brooks, Louise (Wauford) Register, Margie Corene (Wilson) Haynes, Jimmy Wooden, Gordon Wooden, and Albert Ray Wynne; and

WHEREAS, several members of the Class of 1956 have left this world before their time; however, those remaining will honor the memory of their dear departed classmates as they gather together to celebrate happier times; the deceased members of the Class of 1956 are: Bobby Eubanks, Billy Comperry, Ann Jarrell Cook, Billy Ray Lane, Jack White, Faye

Underwood Dickerson, James Partlow, Kenneth Whited, Joe Bill Jenkins, Sammy Newman, Ann Martin White, Bennie Horn, Mary Stella Andrews Murchison, Kenneth Griffin, Jackie Malone Moss, Margie McNabb Manning, David Hodge, Bobby Boykin, Peggy Massey Knowles, Mary Sue Talley Earley, Jerry Northern Evans, William Rhea King, Dorothy Dickens Edwards, Ed Mason, Betty Odum VanHook, Dixie Ash Hunt, Kenneth M. Jones, David Lea, John Johnson, Wayne Dixon, Harry Byars, Callie Climer Chaffin, Linda Jones Wynne, Ernest Johnson; Dot Barnes Davis, Betty Martin Grisham, Ann Hatcher Pipkin, Curtis Bonner, and Annette Nixon Gulley; and

WHEREAS, as the celebration of the Lebanon High School Class of 1956's 50th class reunion approaches, this body finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to recognize this special group of people; and

WHEREAS, this body is pleased that this memorable event is to take place, and will be downright amazed if it actually comes off without serious accident or injury, given the advanced age of the participants; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and recognize the members of the Lebanon High School Class of 1956 on the occasion of their 50th Class Reunion and join with them in celebrating this wonderful time together to reminisce of school days past, relate triumphs and tragedies over the years, and share current news while enjoying the warmth and fellowship of old friends. We extend to these nearly senior citizens our best wishes for a fantastic reunion overflowing with memories and good times, but without high blood pressure, arthritis, or poor circulation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.